



WHAT'S NEW?

Flower Avenue Green Street Project

Details, page 4

Encuentro Poético Spanish Poetry Reading

See page 5

More FY19 budget info

See page 8

2019 Homeowners' and Renters' Tax Credit Applications Now Available

Details on page 13

TKPK5K! Register Now!

See page 13

Trash/recycling collection

No changes this month

TAKOMA PARK

A newsletter published by the City of Takoma Park, Maryland

Volume 58, No. 4 ■ takomaparkmd.gov

Tax increase necessary to maintain services and advance priorities

City Manager Suzanne Ludlow will present the Proposed FY 2020 Budget to the City Council and the public on April 3. The draft budget proposes to increase the tax rate by 2.69 cents. The increase is needed to balance revenues and base expenditures at a time when property assessments in Takoma Park are flat and financial reserves have been depleted.

Ludlow proposes to increase the tax rate from \$0.5291 to \$0.556 per \$100 real property valuation. "Where we saw across-the-board increases in the City-wide assessment three years ago, property assessments were a very mixed bag for the most recent triennial valuation," said Ludlow. "In fact, 37 percent of residential properties in the City actually decreased

in assessed value." When assessed values decline, assessments are reset at the lower level; but when assessments increase, the increases are phased in over several years.

The proposed tax rate increase will result in an increase in real property tax revenue by about \$872,000 over what was budgeted last year, which is necessary to fund basic municipal services and programs that implement Council goals.

The largest category of expenditure in the City is personnel, and personnel costs have gone up. Ludlow clarified, "In 2014, a compensation study showed that our wage scale was falling significantly below the market. We had to phase increases in

FY2020 BUDGET □ Page 8

Takoma Park Youth take on TEDx

By Rick Henry

The passion of local youth was on full display in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium on Saturday, March 9, flowering in vivid shades of blue, purple and orange.

The occasion was the city's first-ever TEDx Youth event. TEDx events feature a combination of live speakers, performances and recorded TED talks, addressing a particular theme and are organized locally. For this initial event in Takoma Park, organizers Marusya Airumian and Nora Fenn Gilman, both 14-year-old ninth-graders at Montgomery Blair High School, selected the theme "Budding Ac-



Photo: Misha Airumian

Takoma Park TEDx Youth event organizers Marusya Airumian (left) and Nora Fenn Gilman

tion." To illustrate that theme, the pair settled on the image of three flowers, one

TEDx □ Page 3

Budget Highlights

The draft budget:

- Proposes to increase the tax rate by 2.69 cents
- Would result in an increase in real property tax revenue by about \$872,000 over what was budgeted last year
- Does not propose any new major projects
- Increases two existing part-time positions to full-time to address parking enforcement and landlord-tenant issues, and accounts for a fully staffed Police Department

FY 2020 Budget and Public Hearing Schedule

Wednesday, April 3

- City Manager's Budget Presentation, 7:30 p.m. TPCC Auditorium

Monday, April 8

- Budget Informal Drop-In Open House, 6 – 7:15 p.m., TPCC Hydrangea Room
- Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m. TPCC Auditorium

Wednesday, April 10

- Public Hearing on FY 2020 Budget, 7:30 p.m. TPCC Auditorium

Monday, April 15

- Budget Informal Drop-In Open House, 6 – 7:15 p.m. Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue)
- Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m. Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue)

Wednesday, April 24

- Public Hearing on the FY 2020 Tax Rate (Constant Yield Tax Rate), 7:30 p.m.
- Public Hearing on the FY 2020 Budget TPCC Auditorium

Monday, April 29

- Budget Work Session, 7:30 p.m. TPCC Auditorium

Wednesday, May 8

- First Reading Ordinances Adopting the FY 2020 Tax Rates and Budget TPCC Auditorium

Wednesday, May 15

- Second Reading Ordinances Adopting the FY 2020 Tax Rates and Budget TPCC Auditorium



Editor's note

English:

Look for this icon next to newsletter articles that you can read online in other languages using the translation feature on the City of Takoma Park's website. After clicking on the link for the article, look in the upper right hand corner of the web page next to the navigation bar, and select the language you want using the drop-down box.

Spanish:

Busque este ícono junto a los artículos del boletín que puede leer en línea en otros idiomas usando la función de traducción en el sitio web de

la Ciudad de Takoma Park. Después de hacer clic en el enlace del artículo, busque en la esquina superior derecha de la página web junto a la barra de navegación y seleccione el idioma que desee con el cuadro desplegable.

French:

Recherchez cette icône à côté des articles du bulletin que vous pouvez lire en ligne dans d'autres langues à l'aide de la fonction de traduction disponible sur le site Web de la ville de Takoma Park. Après avoir cliqué sur le lien de l'article, regardez dans le coin supérieur droit de la page Web à côté de la barre de navigation,

puis sélectionnez la langue souhaitée à l'aide du menu déroulant.

Amharic:

በ « ታኮማ ፓርክ » ድህረገጽ ውስጥ የተርጉም ባህሪን በመጠቀም ሌሎች ቋንቋዎችን በመስመር ላይ ለማንበብ ከሚታተሙ የዜና ማተሚያ ጽሑፎች ቀጥሎ ያለውን ይህን አጻጻፊ ይፈልጉ. ለጽሑፉ አገናኙ ላይ ጠቅ ካደረጉ በኋላ, ከአሰሳ አሞሌው ቀጥሎ ባለው የድር ገጹ የለይኛው የቀኝ ጠርዝ ላይ ይመልከቱ እና ተቆልቋይ ሳጥኑን በመጠቀም የሚፈልጉትን ቋንቋ ይምረጡ.

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Celebrating
Poetry All
Year Long
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DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center

CITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session)
Wednesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Monday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session at the Takoma Park Recreation Center)
Wednesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session)
Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
TPCC Auditorium (*except April 15*)

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Monday, April 1, 7 p.m.
Monday, May 6, 7 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, April 1, 7:15 p.m.
Monday, May 6, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

FACADE ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium

NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room

POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, April 17, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

TREE COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

YOUTH COUNCIL

Monday, April 8, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room
Monday, April 22, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room

*All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Schedule changes can occur after the *Takoma Park Newsletter* deadline. For the most up to date information, visit www.takomaparkmd.gov and click on "Events and Meetings." Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (TPCC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail can sign up at takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas.

ADA NOTICE

The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone with a disability who 1) wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations at a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing; or 2) cannot attend a public meeting but would like to record an audio comment to be played during the public comment period of the meeting, is invited to contact Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager, at jasond@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7202 at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

Only no votes or abstentions are reported here. Resolutions and ordinances are published online after adoption.

On **Feb. 13, 2019**, the City Council voted favorably on first reading of **Ordinance 2019-3**, approving FY 2019 Budget Amendment No. 3. The Council adopted **Resolution 2019-6** to decline the opportunity to request an increase in the right-of-way width of Fenton Street as part of the Montgomery College Mandatory Referral process. The additional width is not needed for additional bike and pedestrian improvements, and adding the additional right-of-way would increase the City's right-of-way maintenance costs. **Resolution 2018-7** was adopted to express opposition to widening of the Capital Beltway for toll lanes and to call on State officials to seek alternatives that reduce the number of individual cars on the road and that bolster public transportation options.

At the Council's next meeting, on **Feb. 27, 2019**, the City Council adopted FY 2019 Budget Amendment No. 3 by **Ordinance 2019-3**.

On **March 6, 2019**, the City Council adopted a number of resolutions. **Resolution 2019-8** amended the Youth Council Charter to reflect current practice of the Youth Council as well as certain changes that were made when the current Youth Council was appointed. **Resolution 2019-9** authorizes the closing of Anne Street on May 11, 2019 for the Takoma/Langley CDA Spring Fest. By **Resolution 2019-10**, the Council appointed Jon Frederick (Ward 3) and Nancy Illman (Ward 1) to the Arts and Humanities Commission. Two new members were appointed to the Emergency Preparedness Committee by **Resolution 2019-11**, Mary Muchui (Ward 2) and Stephen Schwartz (Ward 2). The Resolution also reappointed Kathleen Quinn (Ward 2) and Claudine Schweber (Ward 3). **Resolution 2019-12** effected the appointment of Jess Bravin (Ward 3) to the Ethics Commission.

FY 2020 Living Wage Rate Established

Every City contract for the provision of services awarded after a competitive bid or proposal process requires the contractor and any subcontractor to pay each employee assigned to perform services under the City contract a living wage. The current living wage rate is \$14.75 per hour. Effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the Takoma Park living wage rate will be \$15.05. Certain contracts are exempted from this requirement. Additional information can be found at takomaparkmd.gov/services/bids-contracts.

NOTICE OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 – 7:30 p.m.

The City Manager will present her proposed budget for FY 2020 on April 3, 2019. The following week, on Wednesday, April 10, there will be a public hearing on the proposed budget at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. All interested persons should attend the public hearing and sign up to speak.

Note that the budget will be available for review online on April 4. There will be an informal drop-in open house in the Community Center Hydrangea Room on Monday, April 8, from 6 – 7:15 p.m. to provide an opportunity to ask questions regarding the proposed budget. A second informal open house will take place on Monday, April 15, from 6 – 7:15 p.m. at the Takoma Park Recreation Center, 7315 New Hampshire Avenue..

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 – 7:30 p.m.

A public hearing on the proposed tax rate for FY 2020 will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center Auditorium. Immediately thereafter, a second public hearing on the proposed FY 2020 budget will take place. All interested persons should attend the public hearing and sign up to speak.

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

The City Council is seeking applicants for a number of boards, commissions and committees. Takoma Park residency is required unless noted below. If you are interested in appointment, please submit the online application: bit.ly/committee-application. Feel free to drop by to observe a meeting. Meetings are listed on the City Calendar on the website. Additional information is available at takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees.

The **Arts and Humanities Commission** advises the City Council on ways in which the City might best serve the public with regard to matters involving the arts; encourages and aids the appreciation and awareness of, and participation in, the arts among all Takoma Park residents; encourages cooperation and coordination among individuals, organizations and institutions concerned with the arts in Takoma Park; and facilitates employment opportunities for artists and the development of self-sustaining arts programs. The Commission meets every other month on the fourth Thursday. **(3 vacancies)**

The **Commemoration Commission** documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City; recommends to the City Council procedures and programs to honor and commemorate individuals, organizations

and businesses that have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, historical, political, economic, or civic life of the City as a whole or to a neighborhood/local area as well as programs for individuals to honor others; implement such programs within its scope and budget; and decide on recognitions after opportunity for public review and comment. The Commission usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. **(4 vacancies)**

The **Ethics Commission** provides written advisory opinions; investigates, hears, and decides in ethics inquiries and complaints; conducts a public education program; recommends legislative changes and improvements to the Ethics Ordinance; and promulgates regulations to accompany the Ethics Ordinance. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Facade Advisory Board** helps to ensure that facade designs and their maintenance are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park and provides guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work. The Board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Noise Control Board** assists and advises the City on noise control issues, including administration and enforcement

of the Noise Control Ordinance. The Board adjudicates noise disturbance complaints. Board members serve staggered three-year terms. **(2 vacancies)**

The **Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** oversees implementation and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information and issues related to the Ordinance. The Committee meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. **(1 vacancy)**

The **Recreation Committee** advises the City Council on how best to serve the diverse recreation needs of Takoma Park residents, including but not limited to reviewing and recommending policies and programs that concern recreational opportunities within the City, with a special emphasis on youth and seniors and broad and diverse participation. The Committee meets the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. **(4 vacancies)**

The **Youth Council** provides an opportunity for youth to learn and appreciate local government, helps the City Council address problems by working directly with the representatives of youth, serves the youth of Takoma Park by providing information to and planning and implementing activities for youth, and providing leadership opportunities for youth in Takoma Park. Members must be Takoma Park residents in 7th to 12th grade. **(1 vacancy for a resident of Ward 4)**



THE ARTS

**Alexis Soto
Ramírez**



**Tatiana
Figueroa**



Encuentro Poético Spanish Poetry Reading

April 7, 5 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

Seven poets from different Latin American countries will read their original work in Spanish with some English translation, along with a musical performance by Alicia Deeny-Morales and an open mic for local poets.

The featured poets include Ricardo Ballón (Bolivia), Liliana

Luppi Dossola (Argentina), Sofía Estévez (Dominican Republic), Vladimir Monge (El Salvador), Silvia Mabel Sahakian de Radwan (Argentina), Alexis Soto Ramírez (Cuba), and Tatiana Figueroa (Puerto Rico). Takoma Park Poet Laureate Kathleen O'Toole will be the emcee (See her article on p. 14), and one of her poems (see right) that has been translated into Spanish will be read. A reception will follow the reading where audience members can meet the poets.

The free event is co-sponsored by the We Are Takoma arts and culture series, Alta Hora de la Noche, and Casa de la Cultura El Salvador, which organizes events that celebrate Salvadoran culture, art, and history.



**Ricardo
Ballón**



**Vladimir
Monge**



Vintage Movie Night

April 11, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

From the "Basic Seven Food Groups" of the 1940s & 1950s (one of them was butter!) to the more recent "Basic Four," see how our ideas and official guidelines about food and nutrition have evolved in sometimes hilarious ways. Local filmmaker Richard Hall presents a selection of vintage classroom and industrial films about food and nutrition. The screening is co-sponsored by We Are Takoma and Docs in Progress.



April 18, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community
Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

Local poets Sally Brucker, Tara Campbell, Greta Ehrig, and Ann Philips will read their original poetry with introductions by Takoma Park Poet Laureate Kathleen O'Toole. The audience can meet the poets at a reception after the reading.

Imagine a Wall

By Kathleen O'Toole

Imagine the Texas-Mexico border bisecting a park, expanse of fields and trails and desert pines, soccer pitch on both sides. Zoom out, to satellite, or helicopter view: Juarez, El Paso — one city or two?

Then imagine a thirty-foot wall, reinforced concrete with guard towers where the double high-wire fence now snakes along the I-10, traces what's left of the Rio Grande. Unsightly at best, the last decade's line of demarcation sufficient to slow the once natural flow of commerce, waves of family ties ebbing back and forth under the bridge. Today contractors

line up with their high-tech designs betting millions for their chance to enforce borders. Now imagine this: a father in El Paso this skilled craftsman installing ceramic tiles

in a new youth center. From its third-floor bay windows, he can see straight through to Mexico and telephones his son to come to the other side. There is Julito waving, cell phone in hand. "But I cannot see you." *Pero Papa, no te puedo ver.* Up the stairs to the center's roof the father sprints, hoping for a better view, and to be seen by the son he has not laid hands on, or embraced, in eight long years.

Imagínate un Muro

Translated by Dominican poet Sofia Estevez

Imagínate la frontera entre Texas y México
dividiendo un parque, una extensión de campos

y senderos y pinos del desierto, una cancha de fútbol.

Aleja la imagen, a vista de satélite o helicóptero: Juarez, El Paso—
¿una ciudad o dos?

Luego, imagínate un muro de treinta pies de hormigón armado con torres de vigilancia
donde la doble cerca de alambre electrificado ahora

rastrea lo que quedó del Rio Grande. Antiestético, en el mejor de los casos, la línea de demarcación de la última década

bastó para frenar el flujo de comercio, otrora natural,
oleadas de familiares que iban y venían por debajo del puente.

Hoy, los contratistas se alinean con sus diseños de alta tecnología
apostando millones por su oportunidad de imponer fronteras.

Ahora imagínate esto: un padre en El Paso,
este artesano experto que instala baldosas de cerámica

en un nuevo centro juvenil. Desde los ventanales del tercer piso,
puede ver directamente a México

y llama a su hijo para que venga al otro lado. Ahí esta Julito saludando, celular en mano. Pero papá, no te puedo ver.

El padre corre, sube las escaleras hasta el techo del centro,
procurando una mejor vista, para ser visto

por el hijo que no ha tocado,
o abrazado, en ocho largos años.

Throw Like a Girl Documentary Screening

May 9, 7:30 p.m.

Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium

7500 Maple Avenue

Free event

Throw Like A Girl is a quest to understand why American women are often shut out of our national pastime. Filmed over a decade, this new documentary follows the Dream Team, a group of trailblazing 12-year old girls who later encounter difficulties continuing with the sport in high school and college. The film uses baseball as a microcosm to examine gender roles and sexism in our society.

Director Cami J. Kidder is a filmmaker, photographer, and editor in Los Angeles who is drawn to athletic and outdoor subjects. She will hold a Q&A with the audience after the rough-cut screening to get their feedback since the film is still being edited.

RECREATION

YOUTH

CAMP



Dribble, Pass & Shoot Basketball Spring Break Camp

Emphasizing individual improvement is one of the guiding philosophies of camp. Campers will be provided with excellent coaching, which allows each participant to develop a sense of pride and individual accomplishment. The level of instruction will be adjusted to fit the individual needs of each participant. Pack a non-perishable lunch each day. Instructor: Joe Dobbins

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
5–12 years
3 Day Session
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-April 19
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
\$120

On Stage Spring Break Workshop - Dear Evan Hanson

Students get on the stage and get to work acting, singing and dancing! We'll start each day with physical, vocal, imagination and focus building warm-ups. We'll have loads of fun learning music and choreography. On Stage: Spring Break Workshop will end with a performance, so parents can see what we've been working on! Please note the emphasis is on process, not product, though we haven't disappointed audiences yet! Paperwork needs to be submitted prior to first day of the workshop. \$10 materials fee includes tracks/CDs, lyrics and prop supplies.

Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
9–15 years
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-19
9:30 a.m. –1 p.m.
Residents: \$135 / Non-resident: \$155

DANCE



Creative Dance

Students will learn the importance of creative movement and choreographic tools to create their own dance. Students will participate in routine warm ups and stretches. Students will participate in student-led performances. Instructor: Charonne Butler

Takoma Park Community Center
Lilac Room

7500 Maple Avenue
5–12 years
8 Week Session
Mondays, April 11-June 27
6:30–7:30 p.m.
Resident: \$85 / Non-resident: \$105

SPORTS



T-ball League

This coed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. No experience is necessary, as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball gloves. All teams will be formed by the Recreation Department. Parents are encouraged to coach. No games on July 6. For more information, email tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov.

Belle Ziegler Field
7350 Takoma Avenue
5–7 years
8 Game Season
Saturdays, June 1-July 27
9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. games
Resident: \$60 / Non-resident: \$70

Y.E.S. Summer Basketball League: Middle School

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed six games and the season will conclude with playoffs and a championship game. Each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League t-shirt. For more information, email tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov.

Takoma Park Middle School
Gymnasium
7611 Piney Branch Road
Grades 5–8
8 Week Season
Mondays, June 17-August 5
(No Games the week of July 4)
6–8 p.m.
Resident Fee: \$25 / Non-resident Fee: \$35

TEENS

CAMP

Spring Break P.R.E.P.S. Camp

Spring Break P.R.E.P.S. (Planning and Researching for Educational and Professional Success) camp is about assisting teens in planning for their future. Teens will be able to participate in discussions with business professionals and take a few college tours to get a sense of life after high school. Occasional break away trips such as: bowling, laser tag, or roller skating will be included. Come with questions, an open mind and a bag lunch! Before and After care are available for an additional fee.

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Wednesday-Friday, April 17-April 19
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$100

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Careers for the 21st Century

Let us help you prepare for Careers in the 21st Century as you discover your interests, abilities, values and aspirations and relate them to occupational choices. During this course, we will engage in discussion, activities and role play to gain self-knowledge, explore career and educational options and begin basic career planning. Instructor: Tawanda Anderson

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–8
Tuesdays, April 2-May 21
4–5 p.m.
Residents: \$20 / Non-residents: \$30

Counselor in Training (CIT)

Sign up now for a three day training to become a Certified CIT while becoming First Aid/CPR certified. Work with children ages 5–12 during our youth summer camps and earn your SSL hours while having fun!

Takoma Park Community Center
7500 Maple Avenue
Ages 14–17
Tuesday, April 30 & Thursday, May 2
4–6 p.m.
Saturday, May 4
10–5 p.m.
Resident: \$25 / Non-resident: \$35

Healthy Cooking for Teens

The Healthy Eating Program is a fun and interactive hour long course about basic cooking and kitchen skills as well as preparation of healthy recipes (easy to replicate at home). Teens will be able to learn some nutritional components and how to create their own recipes. Teens will also take a trip to the Crossroad's Farmer's market and learn about growing and purchasing the right foods. Participants will meet at Takoma Park Community Center at 3:30 p.m. to be transported to site. Instructor: Crossroads Farmers Market

Meet at:
Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Mondays, April 1-May 20
3:45–4:45 p.m.
Free

Skills to Pay the Bills

This 8-week, hour long, engaging course will prepare you with soft or applied skills, such as teamwork, decision-making and communication that will help you become effective employees and managers. Each lesson is designed to get you thinking about, practicing and discussing skills important for career and personal success. Instructor: Tawanda Anderson

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 9–12
Wednesdays, April 3-May 29
(No Class 4/17)
4–5 p.m.
Residents: \$20 / Non-residents: \$30

Telling Your Story 101

Introspection is essential in the healthy development of any adolescent. In the spirit of fostering self-expression and boosting writing skills, this six-week writing workshop aims to push students to write about a conflict they've faced in their lives to explore how it changed them. In the process of crafting their stories, students will learn about the relationship between conflict and character development, analyze published writings and navigate the writing process to create their own narratives that they'll present before an audience during the final session. Instructor: Sam P. Collins, AllEyesOnDC, LLC

Takoma Park Community Center
Hydrangea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6–12
Mondays, April 22-June 3
4–5:30 p.m.
Residents: Free / Non-residents: \$10

SPORTS



Y.E.S. Summer Basketball League: High School

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed six games and the season will conclude with playoffs and a championship game. Each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League t-shirt. For more information, email tpsports@takomaparkmd.gov.

Takoma Park Middle School
Gymnasium
7611 Piney Branch Road
Grades 9–12
5 Week Season
Tuesdays, June 18-July 23
(No Games the week of July 4)
6–8 p.m.
Resident Fee \$25 / Non-resident Fee \$35

ADULTS

DRAMA & THEATER

Acting Technique for the Stage

"How did you learn all those lines?" Learning to create a believable three-dimensional character for the stage is an extraordinary process. The lines are only the beginning for developing a successful performance. After selecting a monologue with the instructor, you will learn (through lively theatre exercises) the fundamentals of acting and stage technique, script analysis and character development that will heighten your performance and provide a dependable process for continued growth. In addition, the class will prepare you with essential tools for auditioning, including techniques for cold-readings and scene callbacks. The class will culminate with a performance of the monologues in a final public presentation. Instructor: W. Allen Taylor

Takoma Park Community Center
Azalea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
16 and older
10 Week Session
Mondays, April 1-June 10
7–9 p.m.
Resident: \$175 / Non-resident: \$205

RECREATION

■ From page 6

DANCE

Mindful Movement

What happens when you combine meditation, dance and yoga together? Mindful Movement! This class is for dancers and non-dancers alike. Using creative movement and principles from different dance styles, we will explore and observe, through sensing and moving, our mind-and-body connection to bring awareness and creative freedom to the wonderful world of your body. Expect free dancing, some technical elements of dance, (e.g. African, jazz, contemporary, modern), breathing techniques, meditative stretching and lots of insight and fun. Whether you want to view your body with more compassion and understanding, learn to properly stretch and tone, or gain dancing insight and creativity, this class is for you. Instructor: Beth Mwano

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio

16 and older

6 Week Session

Saturdays, April 2-March 21

12:45–2 p.m.

Resident: \$85 / Non-resident: \$95

Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)

FITNESS

Men's Boot Camp

This class will use functional fitness, plyo, cardio movement and weight training to promote healthy living that helps you to achieve your goal. You must register in advance online or in person at the Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue).

Heffner Park Community Center

42 Oswego Avenue

16 and older

8 Week Session

Tuesdays & Thursdays, April 9-May 30

6-7 p.m.

Resident: \$110 / Non-resident: \$130

Advanced registration required.



Qi Gong – Sunlight

Sunlight Qi Gong is a powerful, beautiful series of movements designed to increase

the practitioner's connection to the vitality, warmth, heart - energy and joy of the sun. As spring wakens flowers and beckons us outdoors, Sunlight Qi Gong helps us access our vital "Qi" energy within ourselves and in nature, balancing the Yin of winter with the bright, active Yang energy of spring. No experience needed. Instructor: Joann Malone

Takoma Park Community Center

Dance Studio

7500 Maple Avenue

16 and older

8 Week Session

Tuesdays, April 2-May 21

7–8 p.m.

Resident: \$95 / Non-resident: \$105

Drop-In: \$15 (check or credit card only)



Total Body Tabata

A form of high intensity interval training (HIIT), this class consists of eight rounds of ultra-high-intensity exercises in a specific 20 seconds on, 10 seconds off interval. This class encompasses upper body, lower body, balance, core and flexibility. Just a short workout will leave you sweaty, full of energy and ready to take on your packed schedule. Instructor: KJ Total Fitness

Heffner Park Community Center

42 Oswego Avenue

16 and older

6 Week Session

Wednesdays, April 3-May 8

6:30–7:30 p.m.

Resident: \$85 / Non-resident: \$95

Advanced registration required

MARTIAL ARTS

Karate Self Defense

Promote physical fitness, self-defense, leadership and cultural exchange through the practice of a traditional Okinawan karate style, Isshinryu (which means One Heart Way). This program is a partnership between the Takoma

Park Recreation Department and the Penn State University Karate Club. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructor: Penn State University Karate Club

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Back Room

7315 New Hampshire Avenue

16 and older

9 Week Session

Mondays and Wednesdays, April 1-May 29

7–8:30 p.m.

Free with recreation center membership card

Kung Fu

Bungo Fu is the Jamaican style of Kung Fu. Come learn meditation, self-defense, improved flexibility and self-awareness. This ancient form of self-defense provides physical and mental exercise, which could help students defend themselves by strengthening hand-and-eye coordination as well as assist with the maintaining of balance as they get older. The student will gain physical fitness, mental and spiritual strength. Instructor: Master Thompson

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio

7500 Maple Avenue

17 and older

9 Week Session

Monday, April 1-June 3

7:30–8:30 p.m.

Resident: \$150 / Non-resident: \$180

MULTI MEDIA

Documentary Photography

We are constantly taking photos, but they don't come out the way we imagined. In this class, learn the intros to photography as an art form that can help you step up your photography game. The majority of the class will be spent taking photos at different places in the DMV area, and some time will be spent in the classroom. The class will cover shooting manual on your DSLR, rules of composition, portrait photography, object photography, landscape photography, posing 101, editing your photos, natural light vs. non natural light, composition and turning your phone into a camera. Course Requirements: Participants should have basic knowledge of computers and own a DSLR. All participants will need an external memory device (stick or drive) of at least 5 gigabytes to store and save photographs. Instructor: Vinny Mwano

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab

7500 Maple Avenue

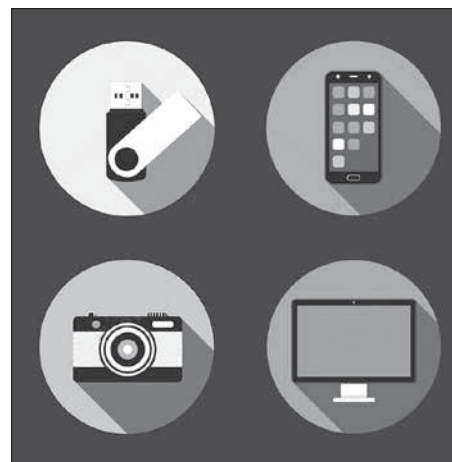
17 and older

8 Week Session

Mondays, April 1-May 20

6–8 p.m.

Resident: \$125 / Non-resident: \$145



How to Manage Your Digital Photos

Do you know how many photos you have on your smart phone? Can you locate them? This class will teach you how to organize, store, protect, enhance and use hundreds, possibly thousands, of photographs on your computer, tablet and smart phone. Students will be introduced to programs that make it easier to work with digital photos. Students will also learn how to scan old family photos for the purpose of retouching and restoring them. This includes Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. You will be able to use these programs on the iMac computers in the Multi Media Lab. It is recommended that students have an external memory drive of at least 3 gigabytes to store photos used in the class. Written material will be provided. Instructor: Barry Hinderstein

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi Media Lab

7500 Maple Avenue

16 and older

8 Week Session

Wednesdays, April 3-June 5

6:30–8:30 p.m.

Resident: \$75 / Non-resident: \$85

55+

DROP-IN

Bingo

Come and try your luck. Win a prize. No registration required.

Takoma Park
Community Center
Senior Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Tuesday, April 23
12–2 p.m.
Free



Beyond School Gates: Think Tank

Not only are after-school clubs fun, but they also help boost children's self-esteem, self-confidence and provide a safe space. To take the steps towards creating this environment, we decided to take a program outside our buildings and into the neighborhoods. At New Hampshire Towers, "Think Tank" was created to provide youth with a safe and healthy environment in a convenient location where they can lower their frustration and boost their comprehension.

Think Tank is a new afterschool program with the goal of improving student success in school by providing help with homework and school projects. Tutors help participants lower their frustration, while boosting comprehension and teaching them



how to apply new skills by monitoring homework and providing help where needed. The club offers a healthy snack and a tranquil end to the school day, resulting in participants being able to

concentrate more easily.

Every Tuesday the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services visits Think Tank and facilitates the Adolescent Substance

Abuse Prevention Program for teenage youth. Through this program, the department provides discussions about topics such as anxiety, bullying and peer pressure.

Think tank is a free program for ages 10 and older that occurs on Tuesdays and Thursdays (March 18-June 11) from 4–5:30 p.m. in the New Hampshire Towers. Register online at apm.activecommunities.com/takomaparkrecreation or in person at the Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue), the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue), or New Hampshire Towers (7401 New Hampshire Avenue). For more information, contact Javonte McDonald at javontem@takomaparkmd.gov.

FY20 BUDGET

■ From page 1

over three years and comply with increases in the County minimum wage. Our most recent compensation study shows that we are now mostly keeping up with wages, but some adjustments are still needed.”

“Paying fair wages is important because we need to retain and attract talented workers. Our people are our most valuable asset, and they help make Takoma Park the City that our residents love,” said Ludlow. “Unfortunately, revenues are no longer keeping pace with increasing expenditures, and with tax rate cuts in each of the past four years, we have had to reduce non-capital operating costs and use our reserves to make up the difference each year. We can no longer rely on reserves and also maintain our identity as a fiscally responsible city.”

Last year, the City Council reduced the tax rate from \$0.5348 cents to \$0.5291. The year before that, the Council reduced the tax rate to a level below the Constant Yield level, meaning that the amount of real property tax revenue the City received was less than it had received the previous year. The tax rate was also cut in the previous two years. Property owners often do not realize that the City’s tax rate has been cut because taxes from Montgomery County make up the majority of the property tax bill.

Big projects wrapping up and getting underway

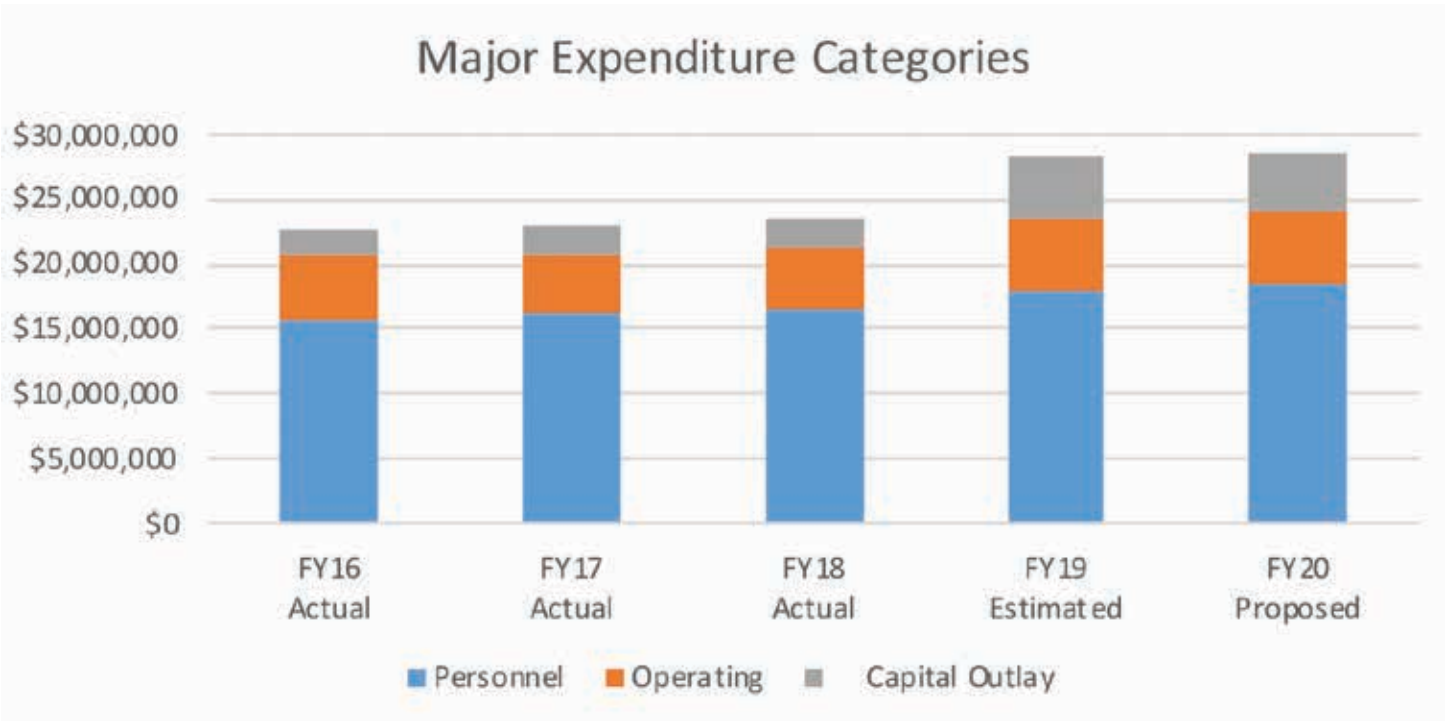
Another reason budgeted expenditures have gone up in recent years is that planned major capital projects are underway. Two years ago, the City borrowed \$2 million and \$7 million, respectively, to help pay for two major street projects and the Library renovation and expansion. The Ethan Allen Gateway project at New Hampshire Avenue is now complete. The Flower Avenue Green Street project will be getting underway shortly, following a spring community meeting. The Flood Plain Delineation study required before Library construction can start has been completed, and the architect is preparing the detailed designs, so we can bid the project for construction. There will be some interior work in the Community Center taking place to create more usable space for the public and staff; this is particularly needed for employees in the Police dispatch office.

In addition to these one-time projects, staff will continue to work on annual street, sidewalk and stormwater projects. No major new projects are proposed in the FY20 budget.

More hours for existing positions

The budget does not add any new positions, but it increases two existing part-time positions to full-time to address parking enforcement and landlord-tenant issues, and accounts for a fully staffed Police Department. The increase in revenues that will be brought in with a full-time parking enforcement position is expected to more than offset the added expense of increasing the position’s hours. The budget also includes some adjustments for part-time staff in the Arts and Humanities division and Recreation Department.

“Every year, we look at ways to rethink how we do work. We look to cut less-needed



FISCAL YEAR	FY16 ACTUAL	FY17 ACTUAL	FY18 ACTUAL	FY19 ESTIMATED	FY20 PROPOSED
PERSONNEL	\$15,782,379	\$16,110,080	\$16,460,099	\$17,810,771	\$18,535,361
OPERATING	\$5,039,283	\$4,737,035	\$4,938,055	\$5,811,269	\$5,648,177
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$1,783,457	\$2,065,455	\$2,112,856	\$4,766,987	\$4,358,915

or vacant positions and move staff around to meet Council priorities in the most efficient way. We are a very lean staff though, and often we have only one person with a specific skill or responsibility. This year, I have left several positions unfilled and have not included a number of intern or part-time positions staff requested that would have been very valuable,” Ludlow said.

“For the positions that show an increase in hours from last year, there is strong justification. Results from the recent resident survey showed an interest in seeing increased parking enforcement, and the demand for assistance in resolving landlord-tenant issues has skyrocketed, and because that is a key part of the Housing and Economic Development Strategic Plan, we need to provide those services. This will also be the first year the Economic Development Manager position is budgeted for a full year, which is very important. We have work related to the move of Washington Adventist Hospital, Purple Line construction, Opportunity Zone options, the Takoma Park Recreation Center project, assistance for small businesses and workforce development.”

Time to hear from the public

“I am fully aware of the impacts that tax rate increases can have on residents, especially on some of the more vulnerable members of our community,” Ludlow said. “My recommendation is based on the priorities the Council established and careful consideration of the need to balance revenues and expenditures. If we are to continue providing the services and programs we offer, our only option is to increase revenues.”

Now it is time to hear from the public and the Council about the proposed budget, and what it should or should not include as Takoma Park heads into the new fiscal year.

Impact of Tax Increase



Example: Decrease in Assessed Value

	2019	2020
Assessed Value	\$500,000	\$460,000
City Tax Rate	0.5291	0.556
City Tax Owed	\$2,645.50	\$2,557.60
Decrease in Tax Payment		-\$87.90



Example: Increase in Assessed Value

	2019	2020
Assessed Value	\$500,000	\$540,000
City Tax Rate	0.5291	0.556
City Tax Owed	\$2,645.50	\$3,002.40
Increase in Tax Payment		\$356.90

Residents can learn more about the proposed budget and ask questions at one of two informal Budget Open Houses scheduled for Monday, April 8 at 6 p.m. in the Azalea Room of the Community Center and Monday, April 15 at 6 p.m. at the New Hampshire Recreation Center.



2019 - CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES



1. A Livable Community For All

- Ensure we have a range of safe, quality, and stable housing options that are affordable for residents of varying incomes and all races and ethnicities.
- Identify programming needs in the community and develop approaches to meet those needs, emphasizing youth, families, seniors, and our more vulnerable residents, such as those with lower incomes, immigrants, and people with developmental disabilities.
- Defend status as a Sanctuary City and continue to be a welcoming and inclusive community for all residents.
- Improve transportation planning and outreach to create a safer and more racially equitable community for all residents, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicle occupants.
- Further efforts related to racial equity.

2. Fiscally Sustainable Government

- Increase funding from County and State to address tax duplication and other City needs.
- Minimize adverse impacts of changes to the federal tax system.
- Adopt sustainable investment and banking policy and practices.

3. Environmentally Sustainable Community

- Prioritize actions, policies, innovations, and new opportunities that mitigate and adapt to the causes and effects of climate change.
- Protect, plan for, and improve Takoma Park's natural resources including urban forest health and water quality, and continue to be a leader in community sustainability programs and policies.

4. Engaged, Responsive, Service-oriented Government

- Improve policies and processes related to the tree ordinance; traffic calming; sidewalk requests, repair and maintenance; and residential/commercial boundary conflicts.
- Improve and formalize systems for Council-appointed committees and external committees on which Councilmembers serve (e.g. MWCOG).
- Identify policing priorities and explore options for enhanced police/community relations.
- Explore alternative approaches to enhance public engagement and two-way communication.

5. Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life

- Plan and prepare for development in the City and region while maintaining the special character and diversity of Takoma Park.
- Redevelopment of Takoma Park Recreation Center.



TakomaParkMD.gov

LIBRARY

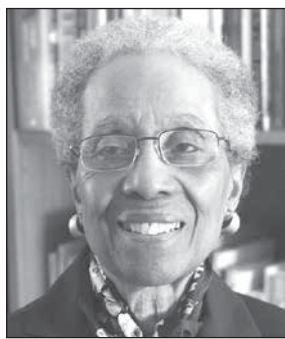


Photo: Kia Chenelle

Jason Reynolds



Taylor



Eloise Greenfield

Anniversaries all around

The week of April 29-May 5 is the 100th Anniversary of Children's Book Week, and this year also marks the 50th Anniversary of the Coretta Scott King children's and teen book awards, given annually to best books by African-American authors and illustrators. We are celebrating these two great milestones with one spectacular program on Tuesday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m. featuring best-selling young author Jason Reynolds and Eloise Greenfield, an award-winning author of more than 40 books for children.

At our event – co-sponsored by Politics & Prose Bookstore – Greenfield and Reynolds will be in conversation with Deborah D. Taylor, a long-time youth librarian and recipient of the 2015 Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Practitioner Award for Lifetime Achievement. Greenfield was the 2018 recipient of the Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for

Lifetime Achievement, and Reynolds won the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent for his debut novel, *When I Was the Greatest*, as well as a 2018 Coretta Scott King Author Honor for *Long Way Down*.

The authors and moderator will speak about their work, honor trailblazing voices who have paved the way for contemporary stories and recognize the changes that still need to be made. This is an event not to be missed by anyone who is a fan of children's and teen literature.

NOTE: This event, which is best for ages 10 and up, will be held in the Takoma Park Maryland Community Center auditorium, located at 7500 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park, Md. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no tickets or required registration. We will have an overflow room as well to accommodate those who don't get seats in the auditorium.

Favorite Poem Evening Returns!

Please join us at the Favorite Poem Evening on Tuesday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Library!

This event began more than 20 years ago, when Robert Pinsky was Poet Laureate. He encouraged people around the country to attend such gatherings to share poems that had meaning to them – believing that everyone, in every walk of life has some past or present connection to poetry.

As in prior years, we are inviting people to come and read a poem they have enjoyed. These must be published poems,

not written by you or your friends. Poems written in languages other than English are ok, as long as they are accompanied by a translation.

Please submit your poem by Sunday, May 5 to be included in a printed program. As time permits, people who are not on the program may also read their poems.

The Library has collections of poems new and old – check us out! Former Poet Laureate Merrill Leffler will host the event. Refreshments will be served.

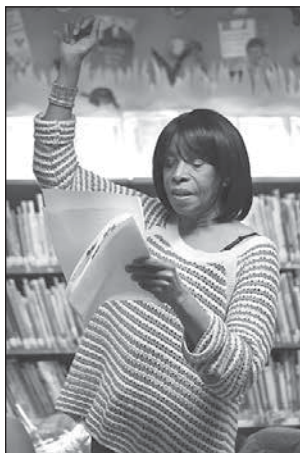
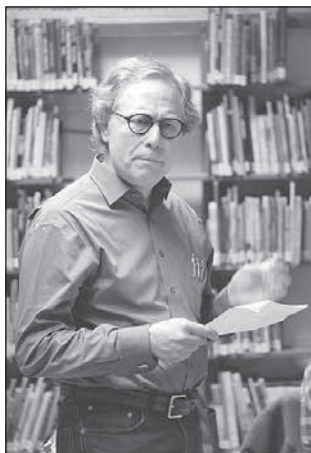


Photo: Maurice Bellanger

Photos from Favorite Poem Evening 2018.

CALENDAR

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15-10:45 a.m. OR 11-11:30 a.m.

Led by Senora Geiza

Bedtime Stories & a Craft

Tuesday, April 2, 7 p.m.

Join Ms. Kati for some bedtime fun.

Friends of the Library Big Book Club

Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.

Discussions of 100 Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez - April 3, Hydrangea Room; April 17, Library; May 1, Azalea Room - 7:30 p.m. All welcome! Books available in the library.

LEGO Club

Sunday, April 7, 1:30-3 p.m.

Building fun for ages 3-10.

Kids Non-Fiction Author Susan Kuklin

Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a look at the immigrant experience, focused specifically on the challenges that young people face in their pursuit of new lives.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, April 9, 4 p.m.

Join Dave Burbank for our fun comics book club.

Caldecott Club

Monday, April 15, 7 p.m.

Join us as we start another season!

We'll be reading books that are great possibilities for the 2020 Caldecott Medal. Lemonade and cookies served.

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, April 20, 10:30 a.m.

Madame Marie leads songs and rhymes in French.

Kids Author Fran Wilde

Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Wilde will discuss her new novel, *Riverland*.

Alternative Games

Saturday, April 27, 2-4 p.m.

Join Dave Burbank for a rousing session of *Dungeons & Dragons*. Ages 8 up.

Kids Art

Sunday, April 28, 2-3 p.m.

Kids Authors Jason Reynolds & Eloise Greenfield

Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.

Reynolds and Greenfield will join librarian-par-excellence Deb Taylor for a discussion of the impact of the Coretta Scott King Award on its 50th birthday. Takoma Park Community Center

COMING UP...

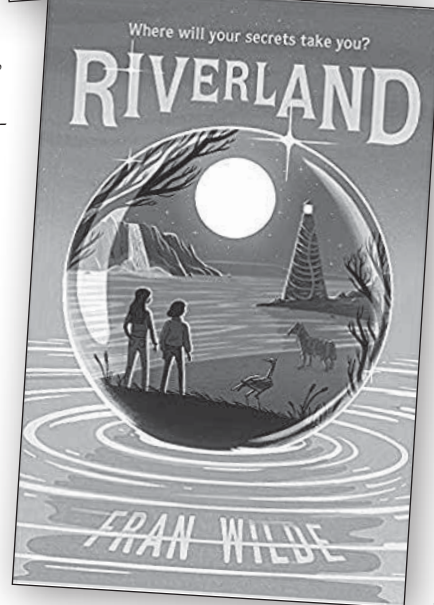
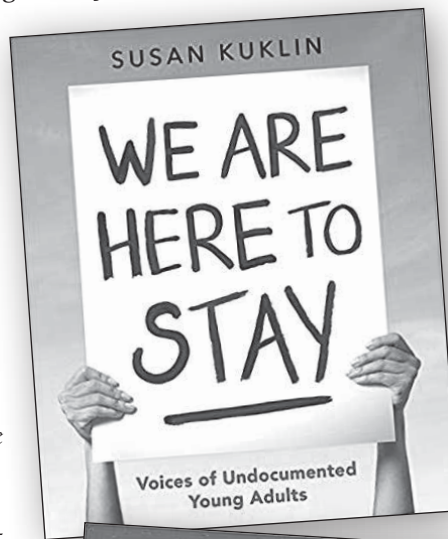
- **Author Natascha Biebow presents The Crayon Man**, her new picture book biography of Crayola crayons inventor Edwin Binney, on Thursday, May 2, 7 p.m.
- **Butterfly Wonder Puppet Show & Workshop, Saturday May 4. Two shows: 2 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.** Registration required; to register go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents.
- **Favorite Poem Night, Tuesday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.** Join us for this annual celebration of poetry.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Insights on immigration: Join

us on Monday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. for what promises to be a fascinating discussion on immigration.

Award-winning kids' non-fiction author Susan Kuklin will read from, and talk about, her new book, *We Are Here to Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults*. Kuklin will be joined by Rosa and Erminia, young people who contributed to a bilingual series of immigrant stories told in comic form entitled *Voces Sin Fronteras: Our Stories Our Truth*, published by Shout Mouse Press. Ambar Martin, legal assistant at Ayuda – an immigration nonprofit headquartered in Takoma Park – will give expert perspective on the immigration situation. Our panel will be moderated by Maritza Solano, the director of education at



Casa de Maryland. The event will take place in the Library's Children's Room. Politics & Prose will be sell-

ing copies of the books discussed, but the program is free, and no purchase is required to attend.

• **Award-winning author program:** Fran Wilde presents *Riverland*, her first novel for children, on Thursday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. Aimed at kids ages 10-14, Wilde's book tells the story of two sisters who create a fantasy world as a way of escaping the reality of domestic violence in their family. In a starred review, *Booklist* noted: "A narrative that challenges the stereotypical stories of domestic violence, this is painful and heartwarming all at once in its portrayal of two sisters creating their own magic and protecting one another."

HOUSING MAILBOX

■ From page 4

by first-class mail. The letter may also be sent by certified mail with a green-card delivery confirmation. The letter should include the date, what repairs are needed and the tenant's contact information. The letter should be signed and a copy retained by the tenant. This letter will establish when the landlord was informed of the repair problem. If you use an app or email, you should securely store all relevant communication for future reference.

Section 6.16.140 (Defective tenancy) of the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law indicates that a landlord, after receiving written notice of the problem, has seven (7) calendar days to correct the problem or make a good faith effort to correct it.

If he or she receives no response from

the landlord within seven calendar days, a tenant may then report his or her complaint to the Montgomery County Code Enforcement Office by calling 240-777-0311 or filing a complaint online at www.montgomerycountymd.gov. This will initiate a code inspector coming to your apartment, by appointment, to confirm that the problem is a code violation. If a code violation is confirmed, the inspector will send a notice giving the landlord typically 30 days to correct the problem(s). A re-inspection takes place after the 30-day period to confirm the violation is corrected.

Tenants or landlords with questions regarding the City's Landlord-Tenant Laws may contact the Department of Housing and Community Development at housing@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7119.

RECREATION

■ From page 7

Blood Pressure Screening

Adventist Healthcare will conduct monthly blood pressure screening. Drop-in. No registration is required.

Takoma Park Community Center
Senior Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Tuesday, April 23
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT



Computer Basics

This three-week course will introduce people with little or no previous experience to basic skills, such as sending and receiving email, internet searching and using a word processor to compose letters. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers and take this course. Instructor: Anne LeVeque

Takoma Park Community Center
Computer Lab
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Wednesdays, April 24-May 8
10 a.m.–12 p.m.
\$10 (Plus a Takoma Park Library card)

Internet Banking and Email Do's and Don'ts Workshop

Learn about digital banking, including automating bank transactions and safety tips for banking online. Participants will also learn about the safety of using email and how to avoid email fraud and scams. Limited space. Instructor: Isaac Asare

Takoma Park Community Center
Multi-media Lab and Hydrangea Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Saturday, April 13
10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
Free

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Heart & Core

Move to the high energy beat to pump up the heart rate followed by 20 minutes of Pilates core floor workout to strengthen the area from shoulders through hips. Instructor: Nancy Nickell

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Saturdays, April 13-June 22
9:15–10:15 a.m.
Free

Tennis Fun and Fitness

This class blends exercise with learning or reviewing tennis skills utilizing special equipment for indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own racket. Instructor: Coach SJ

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Thursdays, April 4-June 13
12–1 p.m.
Free

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Egg Hunt

Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an eggciting time! There are four age categories: ages 2 and under, 3–4 years, 5–6 years, and 7–8 years. The event starts at 10 a.m. with games and music. The hunt begins at 11 a.m. sharp! Don't miss out. Mr. Bunny will be available to take photos with you as well.

Ed Wilhelm Field
(behind Piney Branch Elementary School)
Saturday, April 20
Starts at 10 a.m.
Rain Date: Monday, April 22 at 4 p.m.
Free



SAVE THE DATE FOR:

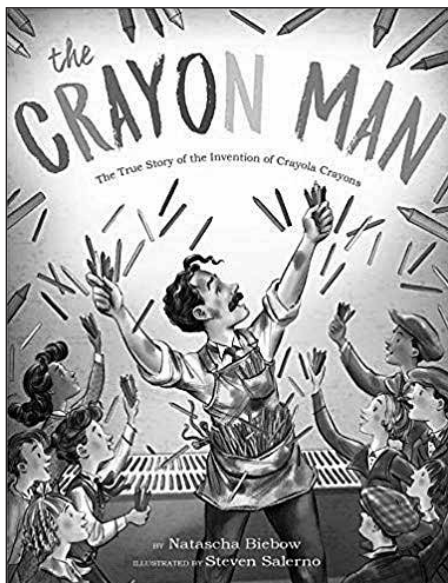


Saturday, May 18

LIBRARY BRIEFS

■ From page 10

The latest from award-winning Wilde is a must-read for upper-middle-graders looking not just for a magical quest but also for lyrical writing and a beautiful story, too."



- **Colorful conversation:** Kids author Natascha Biebow presents her new picture book biography of Crayola crayons creator Edwin Binney on Thursday, May 2 at 7 p.m. In its review, Kirkus called the book: "A suitably colorful introduction to the life of a person whose name readers may not know but whose invention they all use." All are welcome to what

promises to be a fun program!

- **Playful puppetry:** Puppeteer Ingrid Hass of Beach Tree Puppets will present a show called "Butterfly Wonder" in the Library's Children's Room on Saturday, May 4. There will be two shows – one at 2 p.m. and the other at 3:30 p.m. – and each show will include a workshop where children will make simple butterfly puppets. Registration is required; to register, go to www.tinyurl.com/tplibraryevents or call t 301-891-7259. Thanks to the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring our program.



Puppeteer Ingrid Hass of Beach Tree Puppets



Takoma Park Children's Business Fair

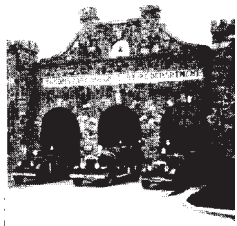
Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Application Deadline: April 12

Submit applications Online:
www.childrensbusinessfair.org/takomapark

Guidelines:

1. Please submit one application for each business. Children working as a group should submit one application that includes each child's information. Space are limited and can be filled very quickly. We encourage siblings or friends to team up as one application, so more people can participate. No more than 3 participants per business. If children of different age groups submit a business together, they will be judged in the age group of the oldest participant.
2. Applicants must be between the ages of 6 and 14 on the date of the business fair.
3. Parents may help their child fill out the application, but we expect the children to do as much as possible by themselves.
4. A \$20 participation fee will be collected from all accepted businesses via Paypal prior to the fair.



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Feb. 28, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel assigned to the station responded to 86 fire-related incidents in 2019. The department also addressed or assisted with 490 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 576. Totals for 2018 were 84 and 424, representing an increase 68 incidents.

During February, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,035 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,151.5 in 2018. Grand totals as of Feb. 2019 were 2,152.5 hours compared to 2,698.5 in 2018, a decrease of 546 hours.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported as of March 28, 2019, 17 people have died in fires compared to 22 in 2018.

Fire safety message

Close the Door! Did you know that today, if your home broke out in fire, you would have less than three minutes to escape safely. Forty years ago, a person had about 17 minutes to escape a burning home. Evolutions in furnishings, homes incorporating more open layouts

and lightweight construction materials allow fires to spread much quicker. Fortunately, the simple action of closing your bedroom door before going to sleep can help slow the spread of smoke, heat and fire.



In Memoriam: Theodore Lee Jarboe (1940 – 2019)

On Feb. 7, my brother Teddy passed away suddenly in Orlando, Florida, at the age 78. He started with the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department in 1956.

He was a Life Member, Board of Trustees, Treasurer, EMT, Paramedic, First Aid & CPR Instructor, and University of Maryland Fire Service Instructor. He held the ranks of sergeant to deputy chief. Twenty-four times he ranked in the top 10 for fire responses (seven times at No. 1). In 1963, he moved to the career service. Here are some of his other career highlights. Teddy Jarboe:

- Promoted to technician, sergeant, lieutenant and captain
- Authored more 100 articles on various fire and EMS topics for national fire service publications
- Earned both bachelor and master's degrees in fire protection engineering from University of Maryland

- Served 20 years as an adjunct professor in the fire science program at Montgomery College
- Wrote books on elevator rescue,
- Held positions of County Fire Marshal and Training Officer
- Was a member of the County's Urban Search and Rescue, Hazardous Materials and Collapse Rescue Response teams
- Served on numerous committees related to preparedness against and response to threats of terrorism involving weapons of mass destruction.

In 1995 he spent nine days with the MD TF-1 Urban Search and Rescue Team at the Oklahoma City bombing

site. In 2001 he went to Yokosuka, Japan, to teach terrorism preparedness. In 1986 he was selected as the Career Fire Chief with the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department until the Career Firefighters became County Employees on January 15, 1988.

An author, instructor, inventor and safety advocate, he has accomplished a lot in his career. He would always share his knowledge to help fire and EMS personnel across the country to improve their fire service knowledge, as well their safety. He retired from Montgomery County Fire Rescue in 2003 as Deputy Fire Chief. He will be missed.



Babysitter Grads

The following completed the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department's most recent Babysitter's Training Course. Front Row (Left to Right): Eloise Somodevilla, Riley Curran-Broda, Maggie Crow, Ayli Stobenau; Second Row (Left to Right): North Lovelady-Allen, Julia Robison, Chloe Ciabotti, Emely Juarez; Standing (Left to Right): Kiera Norris, Frances Cox, Erika Demske, Maya Tran. Not pictured: Eli Minicuzz Assisting Jim Jarboe were Tina and Ashlee Willey of the TPVFD Auxiliary.

iCan Shine Bike Camp returns to Takoma Park, rider and volunteer registration open

The City of Takoma Park Safe Routes to School, in conjunction with the Maryland State Highway Administration, is pleased to offer the iCan Shine Bike Camp to Maryland residents free of charge and looks forward to helping 30 riders with disabilities learn to ride a two-wheeled bicycle independently. Sixty volunteers, age 15 and older, are needed to assist riders.

The camp will be held June 24–28 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:50 p.m. at Takoma Academy, 8120 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD. Campers and volunteers are scheduled for a specific session time (i.e. 8:30–9:45 a.m. or 2–3:15 p.m.) for the duration of the camp. TP SRTS is currently recruiting both riders and volunteers for the camp. Riders and volunteers must commit to attend all five days.

Many Takoma Park residents have benefited from the camp. One rider learned



Photo: Sam Kittner

how to ride and later participated in Bike to School Day at Piney Branch the following spring. Volunteers may argue that they gain more than the riders. Riders and volunteers bond while working together throughout the week. The camp can be physically and emotionally taxing, but the reward of watching a new rider complete a lap around the track for the first time

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Preparing for Power Outages

By Claudine Schweber, co-chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

Power - Noun: the ability to do something or act in a particular way; the ability to direct or influence the behavior of others; Verb: supply (a device) with mechanical or electrical energy.

The winds of March meant that many of us did not have power for several hours or longer. And now that it's April, the spring winds and rains will be blowing into May and later. Are you ready to deal with this reality? How will you cope during a power outage? How might we care for people who need electricity to survive? What information and plans must be shared with elderly or disabled Takoma Park citizens? How might we learn about potential outages, such as those caused by forthcoming hurricanes or tornadoes? Will you be able to do something (exer-

cise power) and help others in need (of electrical power)? Here are some steps you can take now:

- Enter the Pepco phone number (1-877-737-2662) in your cell phone; landline phone and message service.
- To be notified of restoration estimates, get outage maps, report outages or safety hazards, use the Pepco Mobile App: www.pepco.com/myaccount/customersupport/pages/mobileapp.aspx
- Get a portable phone charger and make sure it's fully charged daily. This would provide you with some phone service even after the power goes out.
- If your life depends on electricity



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2019 Homeowners' and Renters' Tax Credit Applications Now Available

Takoma Park Residents, the 2019 Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) Homeowners' and Renters' Tax Credit applications are now available. Applications must be submitted **before the deadline on Sept. 3**. Multi-lingual outreach specialists are available to assist individuals during the application process.

The Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program provides tax relief for eligible homeowners by setting a limit on the amount of property taxes owed based on their income. Applications received and approved **by May 1** will be included on the initial July tax bill. If a resident has already paid their property taxes and applies **before Sept. 3**, any tax credit that the homeowner may be eligible for will be refunded by the county finance office.

The Renters' Property Tax Credit Program similarly provides tax relief for eligible renters who pay high monthly rent relative to their total income. The majority of recipients of this credit are Marylanders age 60 or older, but the program is also available to the 100 percent disabled and renters under age 60 with at least one dependent child. This credit is issued in the form of a direct check payment of up to \$1,000 a year.

For information about these programs, visit dat.maryland.gov/pages/tax-credit-programs.aspx. To determine whether you are eligible to receive a tax credit, call 410-767-4433 or 1-800-944-7403 (toll free within Maryland). To receive an application, email sdattaxcreditapp@maryland.gov or call 410-767-4238.

Homeowners may also be eligible to receive a Homestead Tax Credit to limit taxable assessment increases on their principal residence. To determine eligibility, homeowners may complete a one-time application online, which is available to complete all year.

Reminder: Distracted driving is deadly driving

By Sean Gossard

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month and the Takoma Park Police Department wants to get the word out on removing all distractions while driving, including any wireless devices.

According to the National Safety Council, more than 40,000 people were killed on U.S. roadways in 2017 with distracted driving being a major contributor.

Last year, the Takoma Park Police Department made 190 charges for drivers using a handheld device while a vehicle was in motion. It was the sixth most common traffic charge in the city, even ahead of speeding citations.

In April, the Takoma Park Police Department plans to increase and focus their efforts on distracted driving using traffic enforcement initiatives. "This effort is part of a high-visibility enforcement initiative that combines intense enforcement with further educating the public of the dangers of distracted driving," according to the police department.

Fines for driving while distracted range from \$83 for a first offense to \$160 for third and subsequent offenses. Also, three points may be assessed by the Motor Vehicle Association if distracted driving results in an accident. Texting while driving carries a fine of \$70 and one point, or \$110 and three points if there's an accident. Distracted driving accidents that cause a death or serious injury carry 12 points and a mandatory court appearance.

The TPPD also offers a way for people to send a "Safety Letter to Dangerous Drivers" for drivers who see others on the



road in Takoma Park driving distracted or unsafe in general. For those who see a distracted driver all they need to do is send an email to Public Information Officer Cathy Plevy with a description of the vehicle, license number and state, the date of occurrence, place of occurrence and what happened (i.e., talking/texting on cell phone, running a stop sign, etc).

"While a ticket cannot be issued, we can send the registered owner of the vehicle a safety letter letting him/her know that members of the community noticed their dangerous driving behavior and what types of fines would be associated with such driving behaviors," Plevy noted in an email, "as well as some driver safety tips."

Some tips for avoiding distracted driving include limiting the number of passengers as well as activity in the vehicle; avoiding eating and drinking while driving; doing all multi-tasking outside of the car, and making any calls or texts and finding music you plan on listening to before operating the vehicle. While driving, cellphones should only be used for emergencies, and even then, it's best to pull over to a safe place to make the call. Hands-free devices can also cause distraction and make drivers miss important visual or auditory cues around them.

Always remember to stay alert while driving and put the cellphone away.

TAKOMA PARK

5K

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL



5K RUN, 5K WALK,
1 MILE FUN RUN,
1/4 MILE YOUTH RUN

TAKOMA PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
SUNDAY, MAY 5 • 8:00AM • TKPK5K.COM



SafeRoutes



EAST SILVER SPRING ES
PINEY BRANCH ES
ROLLING TERRACE ES
TAKOMA PARK ES
TAKOMA PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

CHEERS TO 11 YEARS

REGISTER AT TKPK5K.COM

The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge, TKPK5K, will take place Sunday, May 5. This year promises to be the best year ever!

Have you signed up yet? Find out what 1,500 of your friends and neighbors already know: This is a great way to get fit and have fun with your whole family at the same time. Added bonus: The proceeds fund safety, health and fitness activities at five area schools: Takoma Park ES, East Silver Spring ES, Piney Branch ES, Rolling Terrace ES and Takoma Park MS.

Visit TKPK5K.COM for information about registration and details about race day. We love it when runners sign up early. Early bird registration ends April 7 at 11:59 pm. Online registration closes on May 2 at 11:59 pm. Last minute runners can sign up on Saturday, May 4, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Community Center during Packet Pick Up or on Race Day, May 5 starting at 7 a.m. If you wait until Race Day, come early. The 5K starts at 8 a.m. SHARP.

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for emergency medical and life-saving equipment, such as respirators or kidney dialysis machines, enroll in the Pepco Emergency Medical Equipment Notification Program (tinyurl.com/y6fq8ox2). Program participants receive 1) notification of scheduled outages in your area 2) notification of severe storms, such as hurricane warnings that could lead to extended outages on our electric system, and 3) an information package sent annually to help them prepare for emergencies. Participation must be renewed annually.

- Update your emergency plan (or develop one ASAP). Make sure you have:
 - A list of medical needs and doctors' contact information
 - A paper copy of prescriptions
 - A bag for extra medications if you must leave your home
 - An updated emergency contact list (local and out-of-area persons)
 - Flashlights (2 or more) and working batteries (Test the flashlights regularly.)
 - Supplies for three days, including water
 - Battery-powered radio
 - Grab bag, items you need if you have to leave for a while, including financials, credit card and list

of persons who have access to your accounts

Safety Tip: Keep flashlights near you once you hear of possible outages (Do not use candles!) You cannot walk down the stairs, up the stairs, or across the floor in the dark.

STOP THE BLEED

In the December 2018 column, we discussed the Stop-the-Bleed project and training here in Takoma Park, which enables community members to learn and practice the technique that saves lives in situations of uncontrolled bleeding. Training continues on April 13, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and April 17, 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Azalea Room, TP Community Center. To register, visit takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees/emergency-preparedness-committee/community-outreach, call 301-891-7126, or email tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov.

See video of the March TP training session at youtu.be/UphkO7tANXg.

Are you ready to be powerful? Contact us at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126. Listen to Bea(trice) Prepared the first Sunday of the month on WOWN/ Talk of Takoma.

Celebrating Poetry every month in Takoma Park

Some fifteen years ago, I wrote a poem called "April is National Poetry Month," a tongue-in-cheek reflection on my inability to find poetic inspiration working in official Washington, among the post 9-11 barricades and clanging rhetoric of unending war. The actual spark for the poem was a fascinating and funny conversation with a DC cab driver from Sierra Leone, probing the dissonant realities of his country and ours.



Kathleen O'Toole

The final line of that poem "Poetry is where you find it," provides a fitting entrée for me to celebrate all the ways in which poetry is thriving in our community, which I've been privileged to witness as I dig into my role as Takoma Park Poet Laureate. A few examples:

The amazing *Sankofa* production at Montgomery-Blair HS. 140 students sing, dance, choreograph, and accompany teacher-director Michelle Elie's creation. Powerfully interpreted and original poetry, interlaced with music and dance, and dramatic narratives celebrate African and African-American history and culture. As my neighbor, Emily Kombe, one of three student directors, noted in the program: "...much more than just a high school musical." Mark your calendar to see it next February!

Alta Hora de la Noche. The last Friday of each month at the Salvadoran Consulate in nearby Silver Spring, a lively *Peña Cultural* brings together poets, musicians and actors to celebrate not only Salvadoran,

but Latin American arts and culture. At the January *peña*, my husband and I enjoyed a Peruvian musician, as well as moving tribute to a recently deceased Ecuadorean poet (with his wife on the phone from Mexico!) and an impressive open mic featuring local Spanish-language poets.

Of course, our Third Thursday Poetry Series is going strong. The delightful variety of poetry and poetic voices in the 2108-19 series has included musical accompaniment, visual art and

photography and the usual supportive audience for poets among us.

This April, I'm excited to introduce a new event! In partnership with *Alta Hora de la Noche* and the *Casa de Cultura de El Salvador*, the City of Takoma Park will begin National Poetry Month by celebrating the flourishing local Latinx poetry community at our first Encuentro Poético on Sunday April 7, 5-7 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium.

Seven Local poets from six different Latin American countries will join me, reading their poems (in Spanish with some translation). There will be refreshments and an open mic, a chance for others in the community to share a poem. In this way, we'll kick-off the "official" celebration of National Poetry month, recognizing the year-round creativity and poetic gifts of our Takoma Park community.

—Kathleen O'Toole,
Poet Laureate, Takoma Park

The City of Takoma Park Neighborhood Services Team

Sponsors an *Earth Week* screening of

Hometown Habitat Stories of Bringing Nature Home

Meet film director Catherine Zimmerman, who will introduce the film and lead a discussion about sustainable landscape practices following the screening.

Panel: Avalon Bristow, National Wildlife Federation; Beth Ginter, Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council.



Save Pollinators. Save Water. Save the Earth.
Build an army of "habitat heroes".

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 7:00-10:00pm
Takoma Park City Hall
7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

the Meadow project



Get ready to spring back into market season!

Opening Day & Earth Day Celebration, April 17, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join Crossroads Farmers Market in kicking off the 2019 season.

Meet new and returning vendors on Anne Street @ University Blvd from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. every Wednesday.

Alcoba Coffee
Artemiya
Dodo Farm
El Carreton
El Sol Restaurant
Full Cellar
Jalapeño Mexican Grill
Ladybrook Farm
Melwood
Montoya's Produce

Nancia's Antojitos
Papa Legba's Pralines
Potomac Vegetable Farm
R.L. Vegetables
Tee Cee's Boutique
Toigo Orchards
Tuckey's Mountain Grown Fruit and Vegetables
Schmidt's Handmade Kettle Corn
Zamora Produce

April 17 - Crossroads Earth Day Celebration:

Wear something green to market and receive a free \$5 token!

- Healthy Eating Demo: Chef Gayle from United Healthcare
- Music: Carlos Payín
- Kids Activity: Produce inspired art activity by CREATE Arts Center
- Special Events: Danzatone



A toast to Takoma Park art

By Sean Gossard

Spring is in the air, and that means the annual Takoma Park Art Hop is returning for another year to bring local artists and businesses together.

More than 5,000 people are expected to be on the streets of Takoma Park the weekend of April 27–28 for art and live performances. Inside Takoma Park's shops, restaurants, galleries and cafes will be the works of over 100 artists for this season's event, now in its 11 year.

"What makes this event so fun is that there is art everywhere in Takoma — from the hair salon to the pet store," says Laura Barclay, executive director of the Old Takoma Business Association/Main Street Takoma. "Visitors enjoy following the map while viewing and purchasing local art and are often introduced to new Takoma business in



Credit: Sam Kittner

Above and below right, take to the streets of Takoma Park on April 27-28 for the annual Art Hop, where local businesses host local artists.



Credit: Marina McCaney

Great Shoals Winery Tasting Room at 7050 Carroll Ave. will be hosting tastings this year for Art Hop.

the process."

The art ranges from paintings, photography and sculptures to jewelry, pottery, fabric art and much more. There will also be live entertainment including outdoor music and dance performances.

New to the Art Hop this year are wine tastings. Organizers say the parking lot next to the TPSS Co Op parking lot will be active with wine tastings, artists booths and music courtesy of WOWD-LP, Takoma's independent radio station. Visitors can pick up their own souvenir Art Hop glass and do tastings at various businesses.

Great Shoals Winery Tasting Room (7050 Carroll Ave.) will be hosting a local artist as well as having drink and small plate specials. "We were super excited to be participating when the Takoma Park Business Association

reached out to us," said Marina McCaney of Great Shoals Winery.



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makes it all worthwhile.

Riders (30 total) must be between 8 and 14 years old by start of camp and have a disability. They must be able to walk without an assistive device and sidestep to both sides. Camp requirements dictate that riders must weigh under 220 pounds and have a minimum inseam measurement of 20 inches.

Volunteers (60 needed) must be at least 15 years old (unless accompanied by an adult). They will provide physical, emotional and motivational support to assigned rider. Volunteers must be able and willing to jog or run for a great cause.

This promises to be the highlight of your summer! More information can be found at takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/safe-routes-to-school/ican-shine-bike-camp. To register, visit icanshine.org/ican-bike-takoma-park-md.

Montgomery County GREEN FEST

Sunday, April 28
11AM – 4PM
at Brookside Gardens

Free parking & shuttle service from Glenmont Metro Station during event hours

Estacionamiento gratis y servicio de transporte desde la Estación de metro Glenmont durante las horas del evento

MontgomeryCountyGreenFest.org

FREE admission!

Workshops • Electric Cars
Plant Sale • Live Music
Kids' Games & Tree Climbing • Food!

Entrada GRATUITA
¡Talleres • Vehículos Eléctricos • Venta de Plantas
Actividades de Trepas Árboles y Juegos Para Niños
Música • Comida!

APRIL '19

Do you have an item for the city calendar?

Do you have an item for the city calendar? Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the May issue is April 12, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning April 26. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov. "TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS OF NOTE

City Council

Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session)
Wednesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Monday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session at the Takoma Park Recreation Center)
Wednesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24, 7:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session)
Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.
PCC Auditorium (*except April 15*)
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families
240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahoo.com
www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
A beloved local tradition, the 30-minute program of songs, fingerplays, rhymes, movement exercises and stories teach early literacy concepts in a fun way. The program is geared for infants through preschoolers and their grown-ups.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join Senora Geiza for a 30-minute program highlighting basic Spanish vocabulary through songs and rhymes.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

The Spirit Club

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
Therapeutic recreation class for Takoma Park residents 17 and older
This class is designed for adults with developmental/neurologic challenges. For more information, contact Jared Ciner at jciner@spiritclub.com or 303-883-4364.

Kid's Night Out

First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Fun and games for kids

Teen Night

Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Games and activities just for teens

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Year-round
Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town
Every Sunday in the historic business district of the city, local, seasonal produce, breads, pasture-raised meats, artisan cheese, eggs, baked goods and more from farms located within 125 miles of Takoma Park are offered.

Top Notch Toastmasters

Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Improve your communication and leadership skills. Top Notch Toastmasters meetings provide opportunities for positive, supportive development of personal and interpersonal skills that make you a better communicator, a better leader.

Community Self Defense

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6836 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park
Certified Gracie Jiu Jitsu Black Belt instruction
Free and open to all

Parents of Special Needs Adults (POSNA)

First Thursdays, 7 p.m.

TP Community Center

This support and advocacy group of parents and other loved ones of adults with special needs including autism, Down's syndrome, and severe chronic psychiatric challenges usually meets the first Thursdays of every month. For more information, contact Mary Muchui at muchui@aol.com.

Bedtime Stories & Craft

Tuesday, April 2, 7 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Wear your PJs and bring a favorite lovey as we read some stories and sing some songs. After the stories and songs, there is a simple craft. Perfect for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups.

Panel Discussion on Immigration

Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Join the Takoma Park Library for a panel featuring Susan Kuklin, author of *We Are Here to Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults*, and Rosa and Erminia, young people who contributed to a collection of immigrant stories told in comic form entitled, *Voces Sin Fronteras: Our Stories, Our Truth*. This discussion will center on the immigrant experience in America.

Family Fun Festival

Sunday, April 14, noon – 5 p.m.
Washington Adventist University
Let's Play America will be offering plenty of fun activities for the whole family.

Takoma Park Annual Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m. — noon
Ed Wilhelm Field Darwin Ave.
Get your baskets ready and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department for an egg-citing time. Games will begin at 10 a.m. and the hunt will begin at 11 a.m. There will be four age categories from 2 to 8 years old. The rain date is Monday, April 22, at 4 p.m. at Ed Wilhelm Field.

Parking Listening Session

Thursday, April 25, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Azalea Room
City staff will hear feedback from residents on parking related issues in Takoma Park.

Art Hop

Saturday and Sunday, April 27 – 28, various times
Takoma Park
Main Street Takoma presents a special weekend when Takoma Park is transformed into a lively arts district showcasing the work of local artists. You will find ceramics, digital art, drawing, fiber arts, glass, jewelry, metalwork, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, woodworking and more offered for sale at a variety of price points. Enjoy live outdoor music and dance performances and meet-the-artist receptions all weekend too.

50th Anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Awards Panel Discussion

Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 p.m.
TP Community Center
Join the Takoma Park Library for an all-star discussion of the impact of 50 years of the Coretta Scott King Awards as part of its celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Children's Book Week. At the event, authors Eloise Greenfield and Jason Reynolds will be in conversation with Deborah D. Taylor, a long-time youth librarian and recipient of the 2015 Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Practitioner Award for Lifetime Achievement.

ARTS AND LITERATURE

People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Takoma Park Community Band

Mondays, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Heffner Park Community Center, 42 Oswego Ave.
Join the Takoma Park Community Band for weekly rehearsals at the Heffner Park Community Center. No audition required, just plenty of enthusiasm.

Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

Mondays, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St.
Learn hand drumming

Blues Mondays

Mondays, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Open Mic Night

Tuesdays, 9 – 11 p.m.
Busboys and Poets, 235 Carroll St. NW

Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 14th St. NW
Open mic for jazz musicians

Wednesday Night Drum Jams

Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St. NW
Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends

Writing a Village

Monday, April 15, 7 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center Rose Room
Led by former Takoma Park Poet Laureate Anne Becker, this free workshop provides a friendly atmosphere for writers to share their poetry and creative writing.

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, April 18, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
The popular Third Thursday poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region. Held in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium, the free readings are followed by a light reception and an opportunity to meet the featured poets.

Kid's author Fran Wilde

Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Library
Author Fran Wilde presents *Riverland*, her first novel for children. Aimed at kids ages 10-14, Wilde's book tells the story of two sisters who create a fantasy world as a way of escaping the reality of domestic violence in their family.

Susan Rowe CD Release Concert

Sunday, April 28, 7 – 9 p.m.
Allyworld (at Tonal Park), 7014-C Westmoreland Ave.
Susan Rowe's debut CD *Lessons In Love* opens with the upbeat "Why, Why, Why"—a song reminiscent of the Everly Brothers with sweet harmonies and infectious groove. The next song "Blue River," with the opening line, "I believe in mysterious love. I believe in things I cannot see," sets the stage for where she stands and where as listeners her audience is headed. Tickets \$20 (<https://bpt.me/4193819>)

Photo Salon

Monday, April 29, 7 – 9 p.m.
TP Community Center Hydrangea Room
Professional and amateur photographers can show and critique their work in this free monthly workshop led by photographer Rob Rudick.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bethesda Cares Spring Reception

Thursday, May 9, 5 – 7 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Bethesda
Bethesda Cares hosts its first annual spring reception, bringing the community together to discuss new initiatives for ending homelessness in Montgomery County. For more information, visit bethesdacares.networkforgood.com/events/11602-bethesda-cares-spring-2019-reception.

Celebrate Takoma

Saturday, May 18, 4 – 7 p.m.
On Maple Avenue (in front of Piney Branch Elementary School)
This family festival will celebrate the cultural diversity of Takoma Park and its residents. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and spend the afternoon with your neighbors. Nominal fees charged for food. Event held rain or shine, in the event of inclement weather the event will move inside to Piney Branch Elementary School. Due to limited parking, it's encouraged your family walk to this event. For more information, call 301-891-7290 or e-mail celebratetakoma@takomaparkmd.gov.

Make a Difference - Plant a Tree

Discount Trees Available to Beautify Yards, Replace the Canopy

The spring season is a good time to plant trees. Takoma Park residents can help replenish the aging tree canopy and take advantage of an incentive. The City will contribute \$100 towards the first tree purchased. Residents can have a 2" diameter tree installed by the City's landscape contractor for \$95 plus 6 percent sales tax, for a total of \$100.70. Additional trees will cost \$195 plus 6 percent sales tax. The trees are warrantied for one year. The \$100 discount is not available for a tree required by a tree removal permit replanting agreement. Residents can select a tree(s) from the following seven tree species: swamp white oak, Princeton elm, bald cypress, black gum, American linden, sycamore and river birch. Trees can be ordered through April 13. A limited number of grants are available for low- to moderate-income homeowners. In selecting a tree planting location, make sure to keep in mind the eventual size of the tree and pay attention to underground/overhead utilities, building foundations and walkways/sidewalks. Use



the Right Tree Right Place principle for tree location selection: <https://bit.ly/2TDUpjD>. After your order has been received, the City's Urban Forest Manager will notify you of the planting date/time.

ORDER FORM

Please include this completed form, with a check, payable to City of Takoma Park, for the number of trees selected, plus tax. Mail or drop off to Urban Forest Manager, 31 Oswego Ave., Silver Spring, MD, 20910. Deadline close of business April 13.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please include a map of property/tree installation locations.

___ Swamp White Oak (2") \$195	___ Princeton Elm (2") \$195
___ Bald Cypress (7' - 8') \$195	___ Black Gum (2") \$195
___ American Linden (2") \$195	___ Sycamore (2") \$195
+ 6% sales tax	___ River Birch (2") \$195
Total _____	